

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 11669 181812Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01  
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01  
/098 W

-----086618 190207Z /65

R 181238Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5484  
INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY RANGOON  
USLO PEKING  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA  
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: NA  
TAGS: IN, CH  
SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER'S CALCUTTA PRESS CONFERENCE:  
SINO-INDIAN RELATIONS

1. IN MEETING WITH NEWSMEN AT CALCUTTA AIRPORT  
AUGUST 16 SHORTLY BEFORE TAKING OFF ON HIS FOUR DAY  
GOODWILL VISIT TO BURMA, FOREIGN MINISTER VAJPAYEE  
DISCUSSED SINO-INDIAN RELATIONS AMONG OTHER ITEMS.  
ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, VAJPAYEE SAID THE GOI  
HAS "TAKEN NOTE" OF A CHINESE STATEMENT INDICATING  
THAT THE SINO-INDIAN BORDER QUESTION COULD BE  
NEGOTIATED IF THERE WERE AN "APPROPRIATE" DIPLOMATIC  
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INITIATIVE. THE INDIAN AMBASSADOR IN PEKING WILL  
RETURN HOME NEXT WEEK FOR CONSULTATIONS. HOWEVER,  
INDIA HAS ALREADY TAKEN INITIATIVES BY NORMALIZING  
DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AND ESTABLISHING TRADE  
RELATIONS; INDIA AND CHINA SIGNED A BARTER TRADE  
AGREEMENT DURING THE RECENT CANTON FAIR. REGARDING  
TIBET, INDIA CONSIDERS TIBET A PART OF CHINA.

TIBETAN REFUGEES IN INDIA ARE NOT INVOLVED IN AND WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO INVOLVE THEMSELVES IN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.

2. COMMENT: VAJPAYEE'S REMARKS ARE CONSISTENT WITH GOI POSITIONS SPELLED OUT EARIER IN PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES AND STATEMENTS. HIS COMMENT ON THE PRC STATEMENT ABOUT A BORDER SETTLEMENT IS SIMILAR TO THE POSITION TAKEN IN REPLY TO A LOK SABHA QUESTION ON JULY 28, WHEN A GOI SPOKESMAN STATED THAT "IF THERE ARE ANY INITIATIVES TO SOLVE OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS BETWEEN INDIA AND CHINA, INCLUDING THE BORDER QUESTION, INDIA WILL BE PREPARED TO EXAMINE THESE CONSISTENT WITH THE FIVE PRINCIPLES AND INDIA'S HONOR AND DIGNITY." REITERATION OF THE STEPS INDIA HAS ALREADY TAKEN TOWARD NORMALIZATION AND MENTION OF ITS ATTITUDE TOWARD TIBET AND THE TIBETANS IN INDIA ARE DESIGNED TO CAST THE GOI IN A REASONABLE LIGHT AND TO ALLAY PRC SUSPICIONS. THROUGHOUT, THERE IS AGAIN AN AVOIDANCE OF RHETORIC, BUT NO INDICATION THAT THE GOI IS PREPARED TO MAKE ANY MAJOR MOVES ON ITS OWN INITIATIVE TO IMPROVE SINO-INDIAN TIES. GOHEEN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS CONFERENCES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977NEWDE11669  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FOREIGN MINISTER'S CALCUTTA PRESS CONFERENCE: SINO-INDIAN RELATIONS  
**TAGS:** PDEV, IN, CH, (VAJPAYEE, ATAL BEHARI)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009